

TIPP CITY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO July 14, 2008

Roll Call

Mr. Watkins called this meeting of the Tipp City Parks Advisory Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members in attendance included: Maynard Watkins, Doug Slagel, David Mihalyo, and Patrick Hodges, ex-officio members, Dr. Martin English (Monroe Twp. Trustees), and Tom Merritt (TC Board of Education).

Also in attendance were Service Director Scott Vagedes, Park Superintendent Jim Asher, and acting Secretary Marilyn Fennell. Nancy Bowman of the *Dayton Daily News* was in attendance. Those signing in included J. H. Sky and John Kessler. William Kessler was also in attendance.

Excuse Board Member Hale

Mr. Mihalyo **moved to excuse Mrs. Hale from the meeting.** Mr. Hodges seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Minutes May 12, 2008 Meeting

The minutes of the May 12, 2008 were reviewed. Mr. Hodges made one correction on page 3, regarding the vote for Mr. Slagel's appointment to the Veterans Memorial Committee, should have been 4-0, not 5-0. Mr. Hodges **moved to accept the minutes of May 12, 2008 as corrected.** Mr. Slagel seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Citizens' Comments Not on the Agenda

Mr. Kessler said he and Mr. Sky were in attendance to represent the American Legion on the Veterans Memorial Committee. They had not been in attendance at the Committee meeting recently held but they do wish to serve on the Committee. Mr. Watkins thanked the American Legion and the VFW for their support thusfar on the Veterans Memorial.

Mr. John Kessler said he had a Boy Scout proposing an Eagle Scout project. He would like to erect a plaque with the location of the names on the bricks at the Veterans Memorial. He said he would direct the scout to the City for approval.

New Business Kyle Park- Naming the drives within the park

Mr. Asher said the Tipp City Police are enforcing the speeding laws and they need to have the drives named. Mr. Asher made some suggestions, as Kyle Park Drive, Timmer Drive, and Home Run Drive. He asked the Board members their suggestions. Mr. Hodges said he thought staff could make some suggestions and the Board can give input and approval at the September meeting. Mr. Vagedes said if anyone had any input on names to e-mail or call.

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Mr. Asher said it appears the City will need to stick pretty much to the Plan as monies are tight. Mrs. Hale had sent her comments and she didn't think there was much room to make any changes. Mr. Asher said the one item listed in the some of the subdivision parks was for safety surface for the playground equipment. Mr. Hodges asked the cost of a picnic table or small piece of equipment. Mr. Asher said if the item is less than \$5,000 it may be possible under the operational budget. Mr. Vagedes asked the Board to consider if some of the already budgeted items are still a priority or could they be delayed or moved forward. He added that the neighborhood parks were designed to be passive parks. The larger parks such as City Park and Kyle Park are the active activity parks. Mr. Asher said the budget meetings will begin in August and Mr. Vagedes added that there will be a report for September.

Old Business
Veterans Memorial
Park

A Committee meeting was held on June 9, 2008. There were no representatives from any of the veteran groups or the Senior Citizens in attendance. Mr. Slagel reported that there are 20 bricks that need replaced. He said Mr. Re' volunteered to continue installing the new bricks but it was discussed that the City have staff trained to do that job and for the City to purchase the tool that is needed. Mr. Slagel said it was concluded that those engraved bricks installed will no longer be moved as that sometimes causes damage to the brick plus the surrounding bricks.

Mr. Asher reported that he spoke with Edwin Nickols Monuments Company in Versailles and they are not able to laser-engrave the bricks. They would have to sand blast the bricks and every two years or so, then they would have to be touched up with paint. Also due to the sandblasting process there would be a reduction in the number of characters in a line from 20 to 16.

Mr. Vagedes said previously the Committee really wanted the 20-character lines. There have been problems with damage during shipping, etc. Mr. Vagedes said more investigation will be done on companies that might be closer and offer the laser engraving.

Mr. Slagel said the goal is to sell bricks year round and hopefully have them for installation by Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The forms were also revised so that there is less confusion with the cost to include the tax and to list the named Veteran's Tipp City/Monroe Twp. connection.

Mr. Slagel asked when the Committee may meet next. Mr. Vagedes said he would like to find an engraver first and possibly get a sample. Mr. Slagel asked if there was any more thought on

erecting "No Skateboarding" signs. He said there were some reports of the police stopping such activity. Mr. Vagedes said he was trying to avoid erecting any signs. He said the police have been more attentive to the Park. Mr. Watkins suggested an article in the Tipp Herald and Independent Voice to advertise "no skateboarding". Mr. John Kessler commented that perhaps if someone is caught they should have to help repair the damage. He said sometimes today, the parents are not held responsible for the raising of their children. Mr. Bill Kessler said he believed that under Ohio law that parents can be held responsible for up to \$3,500 for damages done by their children. Mr. Asher said he has worked the County courts when juveniles have gone through remediation.

Mr. Slagel advised Mr. Kessler and Mr. Sky that they will receive notice of the next Memorial Committee meeting. Dr. English asked where the bricks are purchased from. Mr. Vagedes said all the bricks were purchased from Snyder Block and Brick and were set. As bricks are needed for engraving, the 200 that have been removed for the engraved ones are in reserve and are to be used. Dr. English asked if Snyder's had an engraver's name. Mr. Vagedes said they have been asked.

Bike Trail – Canal Lock Park to Kyle Park

Mr. Vagedes reported the Bike Trail, Canal Lock to Kyle Park is to start soon. The contractor had said he would be done by Memorial Day and then the 4th of July. Finrock Construction has assured him that he will be starting the concrete work within the next couple of weeks. The work is to be completed by September 1, 2008.

Great Miami Recreational Trail

Mr. Vagedes reported that the Great Miami Recreational Trail, the northern leg, Nature Center to the Concord Township line, was awarded by Miami County Engineer's office to Brumbaugh Construction. Construction should start fairly soon. It is just shy of 9,000 ft. This will connect us to Troy.

Mr. Vagedes proceeded with information on the southern leg. That section is from Kyle Park to Ross Road. There are 3 easements that have not been obtained by 5 Rivers Metro Parks.

Dog Park

Mr. Vagedes reported the dedication was held on June 21 with a couple of dozen persons and dogs in attendance. Dr. English had handouts and it was a good event. All had a good time that attended.

Mr. Asher said Betty Jackson and friends have continued to collect donations and they have \$1,000 to donate towards a divider fence. Mr. Vagedes thought the last estimate he had for that fencing was \$2,700. Board members suggested that it be

advertised that the City is still accepting donations. Mr. Vagedes asked Mrs. Fennell to contact Mrs. Jackson and work on some advertising. Mr. Asher said he does have some benches to install next week within the Dog Park.

Mrs. Fennell added that the Aquatic Center will have a Dog Swim on September 1, from 6-8pm. This is the last day that the pool is open and dogs and their owners are invited to attend. This would also be an opportunity to advertise the Dog Park and maybe have a fund raiser for the next items needed at the Park.

The water fountain is also to be installed soon per Mr. Asher, maybe next week.

Other Business
Neighborhood Parks

Mr. Watkins asked the Board members to report on their Neighborhood parks. Mr. Slagel said his meetings for Canal Lock Park and Hyattsville Garden Park are scheduled for July 20 & July 27, Sundays. He will have a report at the September meeting.

Mr. Hodges had a meeting at Spring Hill/Hampton Woods Park on June 26. He had 5 persons attend and due to the rain, they met in the gazebo. Mr. Hodges handed out a written report with 5 items of concern. The gazebo is in need of repair. Slats are broken and it needs painting. Mr. Asher said he had plans to remove the slats and painting this summer. Mr. Hodges reported the weeds around it needed removed. Persons attending thought they provided cover for vandals. The surrounding trees need trimmed and mulched. They would also like a family picnic table near the gazebo. Mr. Asher thought that might be possible. There was also a suggestion to remove/spray the 4-5' high weeds near the drainage ditch.

Mr. Mihalyo said he had a Skate Park meeting on June 24 and no one showed up. It had been advertised in the paper and KIT-TV. His other park meetings will be held at a later date.

Mr. John Kessler suggested that the City approach some of the Girl/Boy Scout groups, church groups for some assistance. It give the youth an opportunity to work with the City. There would need to be guidance from the City but some minor work could happen.

Mr. Watkins reported that he had little participation with Tweed Park and Manchester Chase. He said he would try again.

Mr. Slagel added that he did attend the Canal Lock Marker Dedication and thought it was a nice ceremony and well attended.

Board Member

Mr. Slagel hoped as soon as Mr. Asher has word on a

Comments

different brick engraver that there can be a Veterans Memorial Committee meeting.

Mr. Hodges asked who to contact to get the Scouts involved with projects. Mr. Kessler suggested calling the headquarters, Buckeye Trail for the Girls Scouts and the Ginghamburg Methodist Church, United Methodist Church in downtown, and the American Legion all have Boy Scout troops. The headquarters are in Dayton. There are also youth groups affiliated with other area churches.

Mr. Asher commented that the 4th of July fireworks went well. Mr. Vagedes commented that the fireworks are a joint effort by the City and the Monroe Twp. Trustees.

Mr. Watkins said he met the America In Bloom judges at the reception held last week and he heard many favorable comments about the City.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Mihalyo, seconded by Mr. Slagel and unanimously approved.

APPROVED: _____
Acting Board Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Marilyn Fennell, Acting Board Secretary